

# THE MECCA OF THE TOURIST

**Palm Beach the Beautiful—The Land of Summer—Where Flowers and Sunshine Plentifully Abound—Auspiciously Has This Season Opened**

Hundreds of readers of THE SUN will be interested in the opening of the east coast winter season, which took place Saturday evening, December 23, when, at the dinner hour, the doors of the Hotel Breakers were hospitably opened wide.

To those hundreds of our readers who have visited Palm Beach during its season time, this announcement is of more than ordinary import, as it calls up visions of beauty, grandeur and enjoyment as are to be experienced nowhere else in Florida.

Palm Beach is the great center at which the representative wealth and culture of the land gather during the winter months. To have been there once, in the full enjoyment of those pleasures which this place affords, means a second visit, followed by other regular visits, for it is undeniable that Palm Beach truly has an irresistible charm, decidedly its own.

As usual, each year there is some marked innovation or improvement at Palm Beach for the benefit of the patrons of the two large hotels, the Hotel Royal Poinciana and the Hotel Breakers, and this season is no exception to the rule.

At present many men are at work engaged in the process of giving additional width to the bridge across Lake Worth. By means of a series of brackets, made of heavy timber, which are fastened to the piers of the bridge, the width of the bridge has been widened six feet on the south side of the structure.

This change will enable automobilists ample room to cross the bridge with their machines, and for them to pass each other in crossing.

Along the lake front, Broadway will be widened and repaved for the benefit of the automobilists, and for the first time in the history of Palm Beach the means of conveyance about the resort will be other than by wheel chair. With this, the first Palm Beach season to afford the motor enthusiasts the opportunity to speed their machines, the renowned gayety of Palm Beach will take on added luster and brilliancy. Many fine and magnificent machines will be seen there this season, and to accommodate them a commodious garage is now being erected.

This large structure will be on the Palm Beach side of Lake Worth, and will be near the grounds of the Beach Club, this being a splendid location, easily accessible and most convenient. The foundations will largely be laid in the lake, as the west end of the garage will extend a hundred feet or more into Lak Worth. The foundations and walls are of coquina, upon which the superstructure will be erected. In every way the arrangements and appointments will be such as to accommodate the most fastidious tastes and the requirements of those whose patronage the garage will enjoy. The building will present a handsome and picturesque appearance, with the greater part of its walls arising from the waters of the lake.

The electric launch equipment has been increased this year, and there will be some improvements of an ornamental character to the Venetian basin, into and from which the swift, easy-going launches glide in a continuous parade all day long during the season. This life on the water feature of Palm Beach is one of its leading delights and pastimes, and especially attractive has it been to the very wealthy class of visitors.

## OTHER ATTRACTIONS.

The Casino, at the ocean side, is pretty in its new adornments and with its new coat of Colonial yellow paint with white trimmings.

The jungle trail has been widened in places; new side trails have been established, and the trail proper has been extended. In a few weeks from now the

jungle trail will present a lively scene, with the comfortable wheel chairs speeding to and fro with their fashionably-dressed passengers.

At the Beach Club all preparations are about completed for the entertainment of its patrons. The music, cuisine and attractions at the Beach Club will this season exceed those of the past. The grounds surrounding the building are prettily laid out and attractively embellished with rare and tropical plants.

The famous Palm Walk, from the Hotel Royal Poinciana to the Hotel Breakers, never showed to better advantage, a view of the walk being shown in this issue. The tall stately palms are now crowned with magnificent fronds overlapping each other in tropical profusion, while the rows of mammoth hibiscus bushes are riotous in their gay garments of flaming, dazzling scarlet blooms, in many cases almost completely hiding the bright, vigorous green of the beautiful leaf of the plant. Last week

electric lights, and those who were present gave the hint of the merry scene soon to be witnessed, within a few weeks, when the hotel will be filled.

The music, as usual, will be under the direction of Signor Miglionico, who has already been at Palm Beach for several days, his band of fine musicians to arrive to-day.

## REGULARS EN EVIDENCE.

Among the well known regulars who registered at the opening were noticed the names of Charles H. Hall of New York City, D. E. Shumaker of Atlanta, Ga., and W. D. Harkee of New Jersey. They came early, the first to register being Captain Hall, who always reaches Palm Beach a day or two before opening day. As usual, he is awaiting the arrival of the other members of the Pinnoche Corner, several of whom are now en route to Florida.

Among the other regulars noticed were Mr. and

Mrs. Otto Young of Chicago, with their attractive daughter, Mrs. Catherine Janny Hobart, and their golden-haired and pretty granddaughter. They have come early in the season, according to their custom, and will remain until late spring. Mr. Young is proprietor of The Fair, the big department store of Chicago, and the "Macy" of that city.

Charles i Cragin also came early, having been at his cottage up the lake. Mr. Cragin came for the opening of The Breakers, and was joined by Mrs. Cragin, who reached Palm Beach on the night train. They will entertain many friends this season, as will also a number of the other cottagers. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene M. O'Neil of Pittsburg, who have been abroad, visiting mainly in England and Scotland, are at Palm Beach and enjoying winter life at their ocean front cottage, the "Ocean View." Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bingham of Buffalo were the first arrivals of the winter colony, and have been in their ocean front cottage, "The Nautilus," since early November. Mrs. Bingham's health is much improved, and she has been seen out

often in her wheel chair. Mr. Bingham will, as is his custom, devote much time to piscatorial sports.

It is hardly likely that the adjoining cottage, "The Reef," in which Joe Jefferson lived, will be occupied this season, as Mrs. Jefferson will probably remain in New York City this winter on account of her youngest son, who has entered into business there.

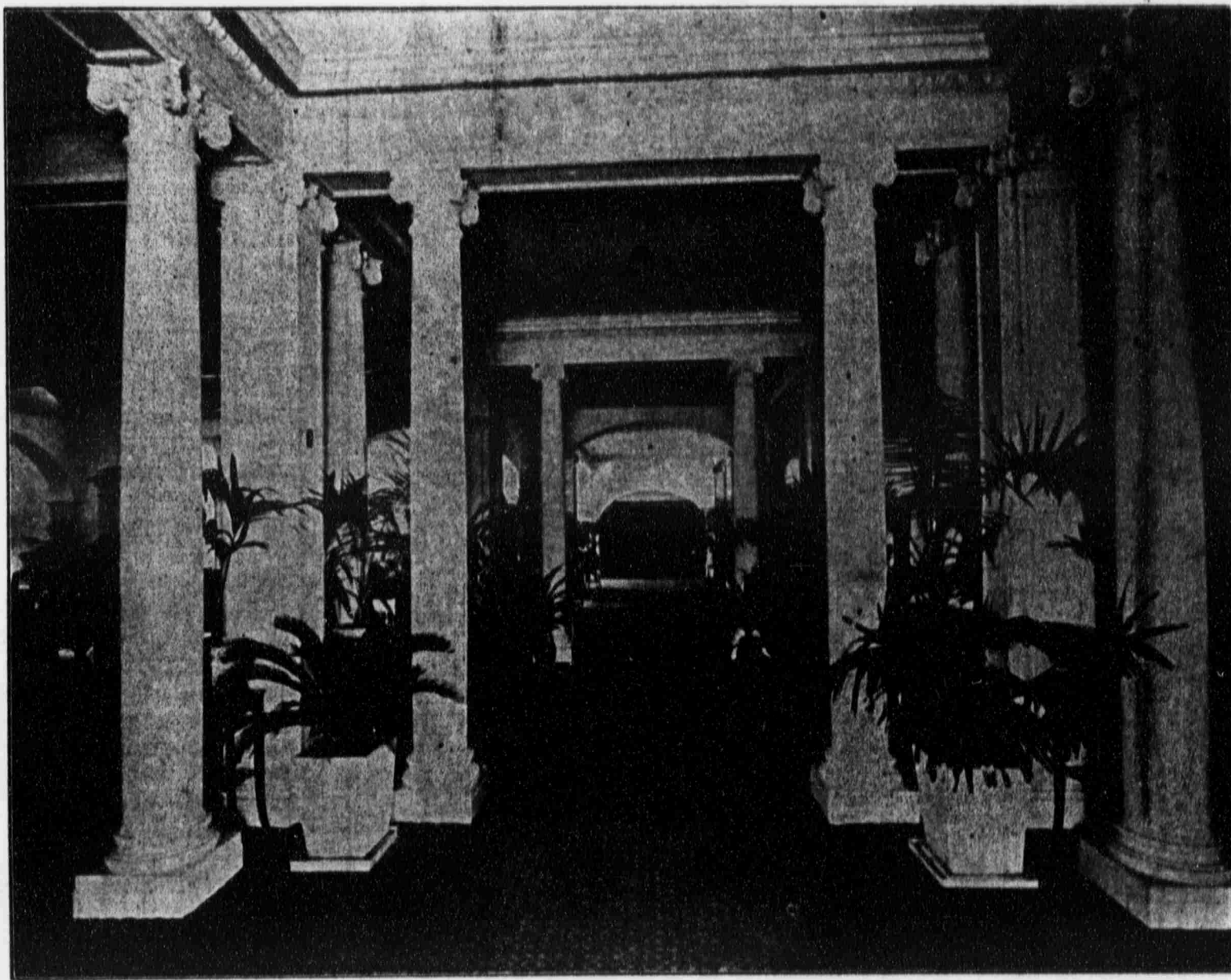
The other cottagers to arrive are Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Robert of New York City, who have already been for several weeks at their cottage, "Fleur d'Eau."

## GETTING THE BIG HOTEL READY.

Over at the Hotel Royal Poinciana, the closed appearance of this mammoth structure is rather deceptive to the general observer until he learns that within this caravansary an army of men is at work busily engaged, day and night, in attending to the work of detail incident to the opening of the largest hotel in the world. The work of this army of men is supplemented by that of several hundred women, who are under the direction of the head housekeeper, and are engaged in getting the various apartments and suites in complete readiness.

Supervising all the work is Manager Fred W. Sterry, who arrived at Palm Beach ten days ago in his private car "Signet," and to whose remarkable executive ability and phenomenal management are due the great success which Palm Beach enjoys as a wonder winter resort. Mr. Sterry can be seen, seemingly, everywhere over the large field of operations which requires his attention. He says that

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INTERIOR VIEW OF THE BREAKERS.

the line of incandescents along this walk was turned on at night, and the scene presented was that of a veritable fairyland. The Australian pine walk also shows what care and attention will accomplish in the complete and perfect ensemble of landscape gardening.

At the Gun Club grounds and on the golf links devotees of those forms of sport and game will find new and added attractions.

## HOTEL BREAKERS OPENS.

For the opening of the Hotel Breakers, last Saturday, preparations had been going on in advance, and the hotel presents its irresistible attraction of comfort and charm to visitors and patrons as they enter its hospitable portals. Early last Saturday morning the starry banner was raised on one of the two flag poles of the two massive towering turrets of the hotel, while from the other flag pole floated the white banner of the hotel with its "The Breakers" in large red capitals.

In the main rotunda the moss-green carpets had been laid, the white wicker furniture grouped and the stately palms and potted plants, in their jardinières, placed at attractive vantage points of decoration.

Patrons of this hotel have been waiting in this city, St. Augustine and other points along the east coast, so that The Breakers is daily filling with patrons as each train arrives.

When dinner was served last Saturday evening the red and white dining room was brilliant with